

Minutes

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

August 16, 2006

Board Members Present: Chairperson Lao Rubert, Carolina Justice Policy Center; Robin Odom, NC Department of Labor; Craig Brown, District Court Judge; Carolyn Titus, Deputy County Manager; Joseph Anthony, Criminal Defense Attorney; Ann McKown, District Court Judge; Wes Crabtree, Office of the Sheriff; Kevin Hutchinson, Member At Large; Michael Nifong, District Attorney; Geoff Hathaway, Community Corrections; Fredericka Carver, Member At Large

Board Members Absent: Marcia Owen, Victim Services; Lafonda General, Member At Large; Riley Butler, Community-Based Corrections Program; Michael Page, Durham County Commissioner; Antoinette Hilliard, Public Defender's Office; Kenneth Titus, Superior Court Judge; Ellen Holliman, Mental Health

Staff: Gudrun Parmer, Jo Iverson, Robin Heath, Jonie Coss

Guests: Conrad Strader, CJPP Coordinator, Rob Robinson, The Durham Center (sitting in for Ellen Holliman)

The meeting was called to order by chairperson Lao Rubert, members and guest introduced themselves. Lao welcomed everyone.

Lao presented May 17th minutes for approval. Minutes were approved.

Program Updates – Jo Iverson presented a year end program report for FY 05-06. She briefly clarified the program statistics. She explained the monthly report and Fiscal Year 05/06 comparisons that were included in the handout.

Gudrun Parmer began her update by stating a new probation officer had been assigned to DRC. She reported the State CJPP Coordinator had pointed out that all substance abuse treatment for DRC clients had to be authorized by TASC. She stated several meetings with TASC and the Regional Coordinators for Division I and Division II had taken place. She explained as a result the intake and admission process had been revised for all new clients. She stated a self administered substance abuse assessment would be given by TASC, prior to clients being referred to CJRC's Substance Abuse Treatment program.

Gudrun reported on the CJPP numbers by stating DRC completion rate was at 43% using the State's definitions. She stated CJPP was looking at redefining what a completion was. Conrad Strader explained what the State considered a completion; he stated a committee would be formed to look at redefining the completions definitions. He requested that someone from CJRC be on that committee.

Gudrun reported CJRC renewed the contract with the Durham Center and Court Services now had a new psychologist on staff.

Gudrun presented a brief report on the 06/07 budget. She stated CJRC requested and received the following: additional training funds, a new vehicle and a pledge from the IT department to create a client database. She reported on building issues and how they were resolved. She spoke about the staff retreat and how the retreat focused on Results Based Accountability. She stated one

suggestion made at the retreat was for CJRC to create a client survey for graduates to complete. She added that would begin in the fall.

She stated CJRC had signed a MOA with Drug Treatment Court. She added CJRC did not have a contract with them anymore, but CJRC would continue to serve DTC clients.

Gudrun also mentioned the Going Home Initiative grant received a no cost extension, which meant no additional money, but they would be allowed to spend out the remaining funds through June 07. She stated she would be meeting with Geoff Hathaway to discuss Reentry and the GHI and how they could collapse the programs instead of running them simultaneously. Gudrun added she was still waiting to hear from the City of Durham regarding the program funds from the Community Development Block Grant for the Work Project.

CJPP Budget Modification – Gudrun reported CJRC received notification from DOC / CJPP that CJRC funding had increased slightly. Instead of a \$167,712.00, CJRC would receive \$169,131.00. She requested some input from the board on how to modify the budget, since she would have to submit a budget modification. She presented the board with two different scenarios and explained each proposal by giving a detailed description and justification for the modification. After a brief discussion on the proposals, Lao recommended using the modification request that moved \$3,499.00 from operating to personnel.

Update on Other Focus Areas:

- **Employment** – Robin Heath presented a summary and a handout on the Employment Assistance Program. She stated 12 Career Development classes were held in FY 05-06. Robin gave a break down of the report which included: Individual Employment Assistance, Referral and Support Services and Job Development. She reported CJRC purchased \$73.00 in tools for a client, so he would be able to start work. She stated the client agreed to a payment plan and had already paid back \$50.00. She commented it was a positive experience for both the client and CJRC. Robin stated the Employment Specialist contacted 144 businesses about the Employment Program. There was some discussion on the number of businesses that were participating in the program. Lao raised a concern about the need for jobs and asked if the board could do more to collaborate with the City of Durham to increase the number of employers for the program. Gudrun explained CJRC was open to collaborating, but needed collaborating partners. Judge McKown suggested calling a meeting together with all the different partners to talk about the issues of hiring a felon.
- **Client Retention** – Gudrun presented a report on the Second Chance Program's terminations from July 05 through Sept 05. She had asked Geoff Hathaway to review those cases and advise what happened to them after termination. She briefly went over the list and pointed out the number of probation violation. Geoff explained the process of terminating a client on probation. Gudrun stated a jeopardy list would be created on clients who were at risk of being terminated; she added the list would be sent to the chief probation officers, along with a recommendation from CJRC as to what they would like probation to do. Due to the time limit, Lao stated client retention would be put on the agenda at the next board meeting for more discussion. She asked if any one had any ideas on client retention to please contact her or Gudrun.
- **Substance Abuse Treatment / Screening** – Judge McKown gave a brief update on the subcommittee meetings. She stated the Court Screeners now had access to records and

the history of the offender's criminal record. She believes this would help them provide a better assessment of the offender. She explained the committee talked about modifying the criteria accordingly. They also discussed loosening the criteria, generally anyone with a level III would be screened, and the subcommittee believed the screeners could take on more cases. Gudrun stated the meetings had been extremely productive and a lot has come from them. Gudrun presented a report on conviction levels from those meetings. She stated the numbers were an eye opener to all of them. She stated the next meeting would focus on Drug Treatment Court.

- **Public Relations** – Will be put on the next agenda due to limit of time.

State CJPP Update – Conrad handed out a budget report on what other counties received for FY 06/07, according to the new formula. Conrad announced that Allison Jordan was now the Director of Programs for the State of NC for DCC and her assistant, Karen Purdue was overseeing CJPP. Conrad stated his job title had changed to Community Development Specialist.

Other Business

- Lao stated the board needed to have a Nominating Committee to look at board officers again, for CJPAB Officers. She asked if Carolyn Titus would be willing to head that up for the Board. She requested Robin Odom, Gayle Harris and Michael Page to also serve on the committee.
- Pretrial Services – Gudrun handed out a 6 month report.

Lao thanked all members and visitors for attending and informed the board the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, November 15th, 1pm.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm